



MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE

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August 25, 2010

Representative Mark S. Meadows
Chair, Michigan House Judiciary Committee
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909

RE: HB 6156

Dear Rep. Meadows:

The Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police supports the concept HB 6156 as currently presented. In 2006 the legislature considered a similar measure for local communities contained within a county having a population of 500,000 or more. The MACP at that time expressed concerns for the provisions of that particular bill.

In the current environment, many county jails find themselves in a constant condition of overcrowding. In many cases this requires the mandated early release of some inmates in order to alleviate the overcrowded conditions. Many local communities have the ability to maintain a local jail. In such instances the local jails can help to ease the burden on county systems, by lodging and maintaining their own prisoners and potentially those of neighboring communities. In such case HB 6156 will afford the local community the ability to recover the costs associated with incarceration directly from the inmate, just as the county system currently does.

MACP's support of the bill is contingent upon recovery of incarceration costs coming directly from the inmate. We could not support the bill if it were to provide a mechanism for a county to charge any costs associated with incarceration back to the local community.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Hendrickson
Executive Director

TAH:jkf

Enclosure